

BLOCK IV: THE U.S. AND A CHANGING WORLD

The objective of Block IV is to bring Seminar members up to date on new trends in foreign and national security policies and on recent developments in the international arena affecting intelligence work.

SCOPE NOTE

THE US IN WORLD PERSPECTIVE

The focus of this analysis will be upon how the US is viewed from abroad after a quarter century of world leadership and dominance. Drawing on his personal contacts with officials and businessmen from abroad and upon articles from foreign journals and newspapers, the speaker will reflect current foreign perceptions of America's leadership, sense of purpose and political, economic and military influence. The importance of the psychological element in the conduct of US policy and the bearing which domestic US issues are seen as having on foreign policy will be assessed and, within limits, projected ahead.

SCOPE NOTE

US FOREIGN POLICY TODAY

A broad overview of current US foreign policy will form the basis of this presentation. The speaker will briefly treat the evolution of US foreign policy since 1945 as the context for a more detailed treatment of the Administration's approach to foreign affairs as embodied in the Nixon Doctrine. The impact of the Nixon Doctrine on the emerging patterns of political, military and economic relations among nations, will be explored as will the probable role of the US in the new international environment.

SCOPE NOTE

US-SOVIET RELATIONS IN THE SEVENTIES

US-Soviet relations will continue to have a marked imprint on world affairs during the decade of the Seventies. The distinguished speaker will present his views on the areas and issues in the international arena where Soviet and US interest are likely to be congruent and those where the US and Soviet Union will find themselves in conflict. Other factors which the speaker sees as influencing the nature of these relations, such as international social and political dissent, arms control, leadership changes, ending of conflict in Southeast Asia, will also be presented.

SCOPE NOTE

THE STRATEGIC BALANCE: THE FOUNDATION FOR WORLD ORDER

The strategic relationship between the Super Powers which dominates world affairs today and is likely to continue through the 1970's will be examined by a leading authority. The discussion will turn on the political and theoretical underpinnings of strategic equality and deterrence rather than on inventories of military hardware. The considerations which have led the Soviet Union and the United States to stabilize the military balance, the forces which will continue to exert pressure on both sides to maintain or to disrupt that stability, the impact of nuclear deterrence on the future shape of international relations--particularly its influence on multipolar world--are questions which will be examined.

SCOPE NOTE

JAPAN: EMERGING SUPERPOWER?

A leading authority on Japan will outline the political, economic and social forces which have combined to propel this small island nation toward the ranks of superpower and a nation with an important role in the multipolar world. The speaker will share his views on whether Japan will continue to concentrate on economic growth and trade or will seek to translate her tremendous economic power into political and military power. He will analyze the challenges and potential options perceived by Japan's leaders, particularly with respect to relations with the United States, the Soviet Union and China, and conclude with what he regards are the major problems which Japan poses for the US in the seventies.

SCOPE NOTE

WESTERN EUROPE: ALLY OR RIVAL?

An academic authority, former foreign policy maker and long-time Agency consultant will survey the growing power of "Europe" and its significance for US policy. Prospective changes in our relations with Western Europe--military, economic, and particularly political arrangements--and their long-range effect on the US-Soviet balance in Europe will be the focus. The speaker will draw attention to problem areas which are likely to develop for the US policy maker during the balance of the seventies.

SCOPE NOTE

WORLD POPULATION PROBLEMS

A thought-provoking point of view on the world population problem will be presented by a knowledgeable and articulate member of the medical profession. The speaker will provide an appreciation for the magnitude and dimensions of world population problems and will emphasize the complexities of merely understanding the forces at work in the global population explosion. His talk will highlight those social, economic, technological and medical elements which affect population growth and those which hinder efforts to control and regulate growth.

SCOPE NOTE

THE WORLD ECONOMY: A NEW DIMENSION IN US FOREIGN POLICY

A key policy adviser will briefly review changes in the world economy which led to the President's decision to float the dollar and end its convertibility into gold. He will indicate the direction the United States is heading on major international economic issues, such as restructuring of the international monetary system and changing the rules of international trade. Issues and problem countries likely to pose major negotiating difficulties for the US will be reviewed. The speaker will also indicate subjects and areas which have the highest priority for economic intelligence support.

SCOPE NOTE

CHINA TODAY

Against the backdrop of the dramatic visit of the President to Peking and the amelioration in US-Chinese relations, the speaker will identify contemporary forces of continuity and change within the Peoples Republic. His analysis will emphasize Peking's perceptions of the world and emerging lines of China's foreign policies, strategic aims, and regional goals--particularly as these involve the Soviet Union and the United States.

SCOPE NOTE

CHINA AS AN INTELLIGENCE TARGET

The policy maker's growing concern and interest in China with attendant increased demands for information and analysis place added burdens upon intelligence resources. A panel of Agency experts will identify the intelligence gaps on China--military, political, and economic--and will assess, from the analytical point of view, the problem of providing the policy maker with accurate and timely information. The panel will also discuss the difficulties and problems of acquiring information on China with existing and projected intelligence assets and resources.

SCOPE NOTE

LESSONS OF VIETNAM

A leading authority on Southeast Asia will analyze the Vietnam conflict from today's vantage point. He will devote particular attention to developing his views on the mistakes made, lessons learned and their implications for long term US foreign and national security policy. He will share his views on the role and effectiveness of US intelligence during the conflict and its impact on US actions in Vietnam.

SCOPE NOTE

U.S. BUSINESS ABROAD

A member of a leading legal firm, consulted by companies with overseas interests and operations, will analyze the problems U.S. business faces overseas.. Drawing from personal experience, he will offer his views on the the nature and strength of international competition and suggest the means which the federal government, particularly its foreign policy arm, might take to assist U.S. business. The discussion will broaden to include the speaker's analysis of the mulitnational corporation, focusing upon its effect on trade, balance of payments problems and U.S. foreign policy interests.

SCOPE NOTE

THE MIDDLE EAST: CASE STUDY IN POLICY FORMULATION

With the Middle East as the focal point, the speaker will discuss the dynamics of US foreign policy making from the perspective of the NSC Staff. He will identify the major problems and principal issues which he believes will continue to occupy the attention of the policy maker. Concentrating on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the speaker will sketch current US policies and goals and share his views on the prospects for achieving long-term objectives, particularly as these clash with other interests and forces in the area.

SCOPE NOTE

MIDDLE EAST: CASE STUDY IN INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT

A senior intelligence officer with extensive analytical experience in Middle Eastern affairs will comment on the preceeding presentation from the perspective of an intelligence officer. His comments will include examples which illustrate problems involved in keeping the policy maker informed and, projecting ahead, the prospects of fulfilling his future needs.

SCOPE NOTE

WORLDWIDE POLITICAL TRENDS

Against the background of the political-economic ideologies which have dominated the 20th century thus far--nationalism, capitalism, communism--a leading political scientist will examine the nature of such newer phenomena as the "New Left," resurgent political terrorism, and "the counter-culture." The impact of these trends on the present and future conduct of international relations, as well as prospects for the older ideologies, will be assessed. Probable international power struggles and major regional developments will also receive attention.

SCOPE NOTE

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE THIRD WORLD

The presentation will center on the major political trends emerging in the underdeveloped nations of Latin America, Africa and Asia and the long term problems posed by these trends for US foreign policy. Although some attention will be devoted to the social, economic and technical factors which hinder development and encourage political change, the emphasis will be upon the speaker's analysis of the political systems which are likely to prove most durable in the different underdeveloped areas. He will also comment on the prospects for achieving US aims in the third world under the Nixon Doctrine.

SCOPE NOTE

TECHNOLOGY: MEASURE OF WORLD POWER?

Against a broad review of major trends in technological innovation, this analysis will focus on the function of technology as a factor in determining the future distribution of power--political as well as military--among nations. The speaker will be invited to share his views on the relationship of technological change to future US foreign policy objectives.

SCOPE NOTE

THE UN: WHAT ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS?

The United Nations has largely been ignored in recent years by the major powers as an instrument for settling disputes and for promoting national interests. A knowledgeable speaker will share his views on the likely role of the UN in the future, particularly in a world of shifting power centers and changing regional groupings. He will also consider the prospects for having the UN deal with a new type of international problem--such as terrorism, international drug traffic, and environmental control--which may be more susceptible to attack through this international body than on a bilateral or other limited basis.